



Metalliferous Mines and Extractive Industries Competence Board

Communique

1 September 2010 Board meeting

The Metalliferous Mines and Extractive Industries Competence Board continues to visit regional mining communities as part of its work to develop competence standards.

The Board met at Wollongong on 1 September 2010 and undertook a site visit of the Albion Park Quarry operations of Holcim. The regional site visits enable Board members to gain a greater understanding of the issues faced by metalliferous and extractive mining operations in NSW and to meet key people working in mining.

As part of its quarterly meeting the Board:

- gave approval to its Competence Standards Working Group to prepare a draft discussion paper on new requirements for certificates of competence for people performing safety-critical specified mining functions
- reviewed the draft discussion paper prepared by its Maintenance of Competence Working Group
- approved work on the development of a training course for site check inspectors and OHS representatives.

The Board also resolved to express its sympathy to the miners trapped underground in a mine in Chile, and their families.

The Board was established to improve mine safety performance by ensuring the competence of people to work safely in the NSW mining industry. It advises the Minister for Primary Industries and was established in 2008 following the introduction of the *Mine Health and Safety Act 2004*.

Peter Black OAM was appointed the inaugural Chairman and the Board has representation from the NSW Minerals Council, Cement Concrete and Aggregates Australia, the Australian Workers Union (AWU), the CFMEU Mining and Energy Division, people with expertise in the development and assessment of competence in the mining industry and senior officers from Mine Safety within Industry & Investment NSW.